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hat this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C., 20231, on: 5-17-00 PATENT Docket No. 0550-0076.30 IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE IN RE APPLICATION OF: Vann and Lento EXAMINER: SERIAL No.: 09/506,870 ART UNIT: February 15, **2**000 FILED: FOR: BEAD DISPENSING SYSTEM Information Disclosure Statement Within Three Months of Application Filing or Before First Action - 37 CFR 1.97(b) Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231 Sir: Timing of Submission 1. This information disclosure is being filed within three months of the filing date of this application or date of entry into the national stage of an international application or before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, whichever occurs last [37 CFR 1.97(b)]. The references listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified) may be material to examination of this application; the Examiner is requested to make them of record in the application. Cited Information 2. Copies of the following references are enclosed: All cited references References marked by asterisks The following: Copies of the following references can be found in parent \boxtimes application Ser. No. 09/250,697:

All cited references

The following:

References marked by asterisks

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3. Effect of Information Disclosure Statement (37 CFR 1.97(h)

This Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that: (i) a search has been made; (ii) additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist; (iii) the information, protocols, results and the like reported by third parties are accurate or enabling; or (iv) the above information constitutes prior art to the subject invention.

4. <u>Fee Payment</u>

No fees are believed due. However, should the Commissioner determine that fees are due in order for this Information Disclosure Statement to be considered, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 04-0531.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 5/17/2000

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